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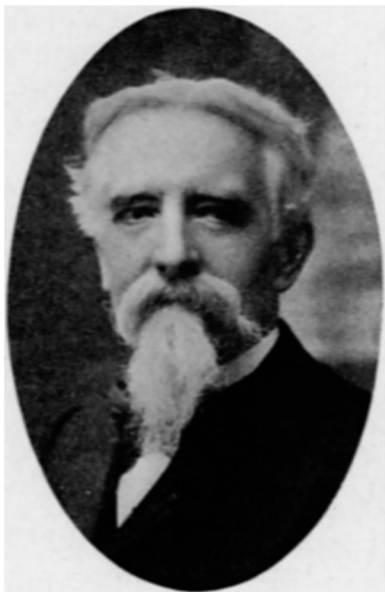
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BRIEFER ARTICLES

PHILIPPE EDOUARD LEON VAN TIEGHEM

(WITH PORTRAIT)

The younger generation of botanists perhaps does not realize the important part played by VAN TIEGHEM in the progress of botany. In recent years his publications, chiefly in the *Annales des Sciences Naturelles*, have had to do with the anatomical details of various families. Such work attracts very little attention in these days. In 1886, however, when VAN TIEGHEM and DOULIOR published the paper entitled "Sur la polystélie," a new epoch in the history of anatomy was introduced. It was the first formal statement of the stelar theory, as we have had it ever since. Before that time the section of a stem was described as consisting of "fundamental tissue" which vascular strands traversed in various ways. In other words, pith, medullary rays, and cortex were all regarded as regions of the same tissue. It may be said in passing that this old conception is still current in certain texts. It was VAN TIEGHEM's good fortune to present first the fact that the stele is an entity, quite distinct from the cortex. Curiously enough, the conception of the polystele presented in the original thesis has disappeared, and the rest of the stelar terminology of VAN TIEGHEM has been set aside, but the conception remains.



Ph. van Tieghem

VAN TIEGHEM was born in 1839 at Bailleul. In 1879 he was appointed Professor of Botany at the Museum of Natural History (Paris), and

from that time until his death, on April 28, 1914, he held the most commanding botanical position in France. His influence upon the botany of France, on account of the peculiarly intimate official relations of French universities, was greater than that of mere reputation as a botanist. He became botanical editor of the *Annales des Sciences Naturelles* in 1882, succeeding DECAISNE in that position. Perhaps his most extensive and most used volume was the *Traité de botanique*, published in 1884, but most referred to in connection with the second edition, published in 1891.—J. M. C.

RETENTION OF CHLOROPHYLL THROUGH THE PARAFFIN PROCESS

In order to study the chloroplasts in corn plants showing various types of reduction of chlorophyll content, the following method was devised to retain the chlorophyll through the paraffin process. The material is fixed in a saturated solution of barium hydrate for 12-24 hours, washed with water, dehydrated with alcohol, dealcoholized with xylol, and imbedded in paraffin. The material should be kept in the dark and dehydrated rather rapidly. This method may also be used for imbedding in celloidin. The details of the methods as stated here are purely arbitrary, and may no doubt be modified with advantage. If a weaker fixing solution is used, it must be handled with great care, as barium hydrate precipitates readily as barium carbonate on exposure to carbon dioxide. If a stronger solution is desired, barium hydrate may be dissolved in an ammonium chloride solution.

Acknowledgments are due Professor R. A. EMERSON, of Cornell University, at whose suggestion the investigation was undertaken.—E. G. ANDERSON, *University of Nebraska*.